

# VAUTH-SAGEL HOLDING

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## Declaration

Statement regarding the invention "Mounting for an Extension Piece of a Tall Cabinet" - HSA

US2006/0119238A1

From my perspective as the inventor I shall once again state the essential object of the invention and define it in relation to the documents cited in the U.S. examination proceedings.

The invention relates to the mounting of an extension piece of a tall cabinet, namely a mounting for the extension frame of a so-called "apothecary cabinet".

Such a cabinet is tall and narrow. It is closed towards the front by a front furniture piece consisting of one or several parts. This front piece is used to pull out an extension frame, which is accessible from both sides. Shelves or storage trays for goods are fixed on the extension frame in such a way that they are accessible from both sides.

Our company, Vauth-Sagel GmbH & Co. KG, produces fittings for the furniture industry. These fittings include all furniture components that are made of metal.

Our speciality is to supply fittings, by means of which a complete piece of furniture can be assembled in a simple way, without complicated installation procedures.

The objective of our invention was to design fittings for a tall cabinet, allowing its assembly and adjustment with simple tools that is only with a screwdriver. The combination of these fittings has been translated as "mounting" in the patent application.

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The main component of the mounting is the extension frame. It is designed as a rigid metal frame, the height and depth of which are slightly smaller than the inside dimensions of the body of the tall cabinet. Shelves or storage trays are fixed on this frame at different heights. A one-part or multi-part cabinet front is attached at the front leg of the extension frame.

Telescopic rails guide the extension frame at the top and the bottom, so that it can be pulled out completely from the body of the cabinet. The construction of the lower telescopic rail is strong enough to support the entire weight of the loaded extension frame.

The process of assembly and adjustment is illustrated in more detail by the drawings of Appendix 1, with the steps 1. to 7.

Two adjusting screws are screwed into the lower telescopic rail with their screw heads directed upwards. The extension frame is plugged onto these screws during the assembly of the tall cabinet. The screws have a flange below their heads, at a distance corresponding to the height of the lower leg of the frame, on which the leg is supported. During assembly, the screw heads enter into mounting bores in the lower leg of the extension frame. These screw heads are conical, with a flat bottom.

A locking latch is resiliently guided in the lower leg of the extension frame, and also possesses corresponding recesses for the screw heads. When the screw heads enter the lower leg, they slide on an inclined surface of the respective recess, and so the locking latch is moved forward.

When, during the process of plugging it on, the extension frame touches the flanges of the two adjusting screws, the screw heads have passed the locking latch. The latch is retracted underneath the flat heads of the screws, and thus fixes the extension frame on the telescopic rail. The locking latch is now positioned underneath the screw head, thereby preventing the extension frame from being lifted up again from the telescopic rail.

The locking latch stands out slightly from the back of the lower leg of the extension frame. If the outer end of the locking latch is pushed, the two adjusting screws are released and the extension frame can again be detached from the lower telescopic rail.

The screw head is accessible from above through the bore in the lower leg. It presents a slot, so it can be turned with a screwdriver to adjust its height in the thread in the lower telescopic rail and thus the height of the flanges with respect to the telescopic rail. In this way the height of the extension frame can be precisely adjusted.

As the two adjusting screws are located at a wide distance from each other on the lower telescopic rail, the angle of the extension frame in relation to the lower telescopic rail can also be adjusted with high precision.

The features of the invention described here can neither be found in the state of the art, nor are they obvious.

The patent U.S. 6,199,966 B1 Fulterer "(corresponding to EP 0 940 105 B1) provides only one screw on the telescopic rail, by means of which the inclination of the extension frame can be adjusted around its middle axis. This adjustment screw does not serve to adjust the height of the extension frame. Height adjustment for the frame is not provided.

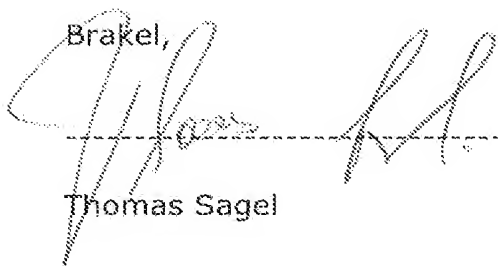
The extension frame is fixed at the telescopic rail with transverse bolts that need to be inserted additionally.

The assembly of the extension frame according to the patent "Fulterer" follows a different principle of construction and therefore is not comparable with the present invention. The components of the mounting are considerably more complicated and the assembly requires a significantly higher effort.

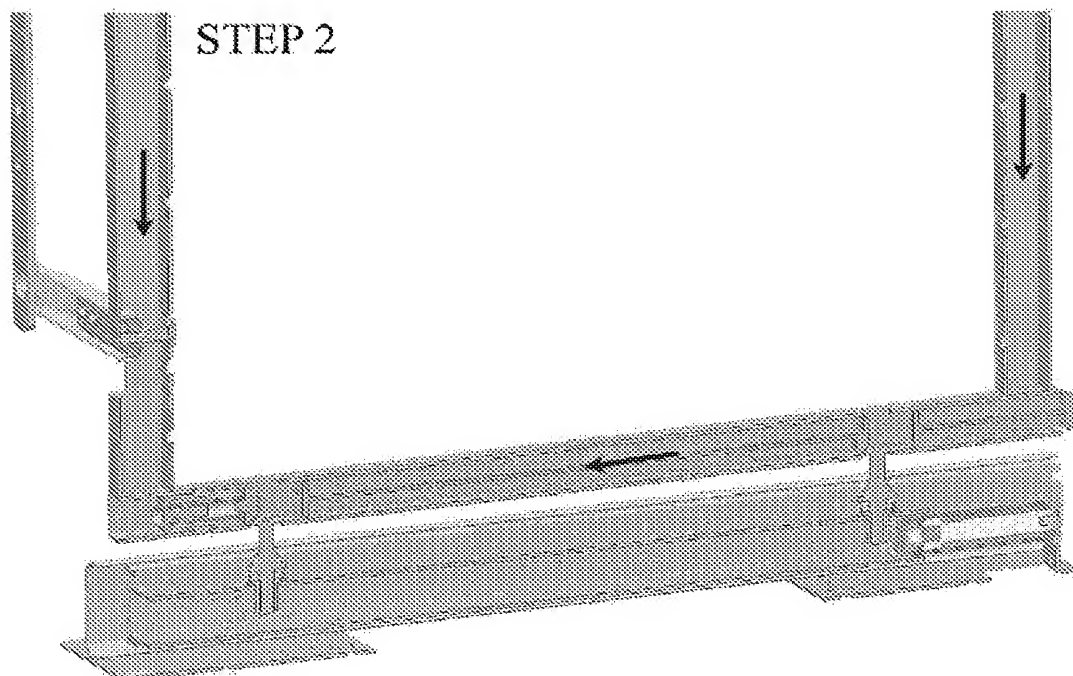
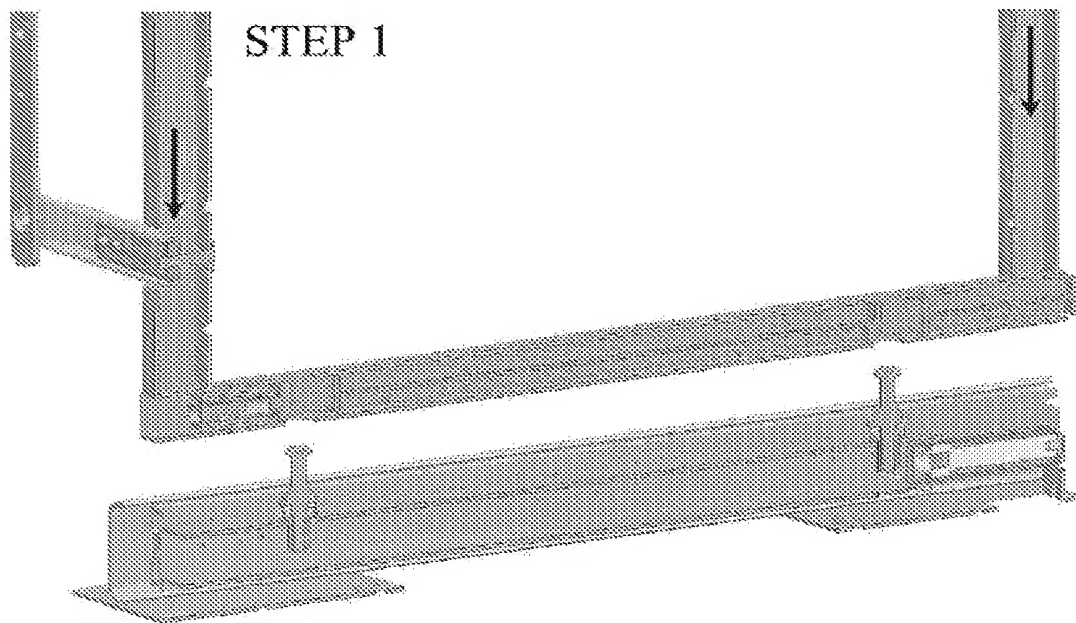
A construction with two adjusting screws, on which the extension frame is attached and latched and by means of which height and inclination are adjusted, is not suggested by the patent "Fulterer" in any way.

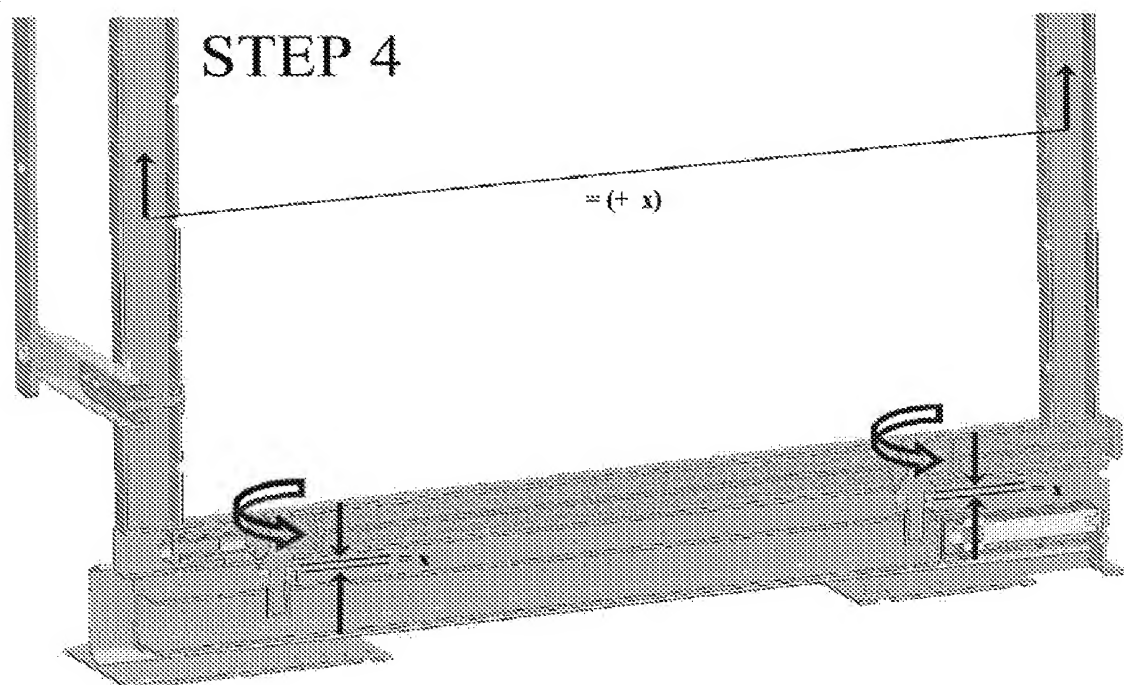
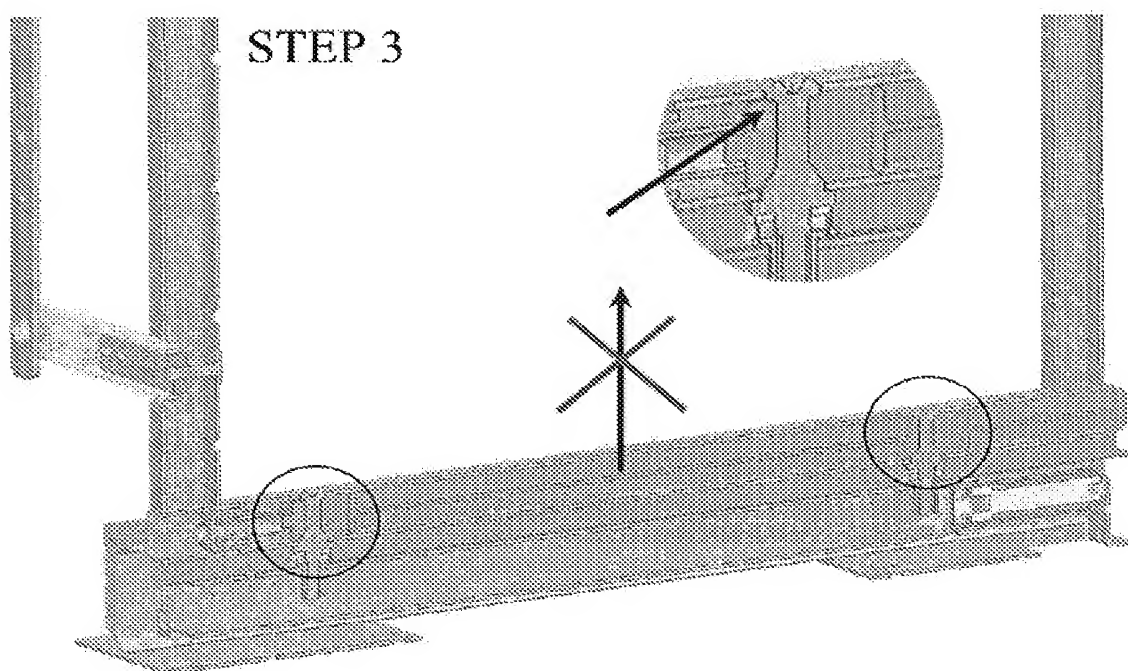
Also, a combination with U.S. Patent 4,370,773, "Hadary," which presents a locking mechanism for a toothbrush head, does not lead to the object of invention. This locking mechanism is not suitable for a vertically attached extension frame and no means at all is provided for adjustment.

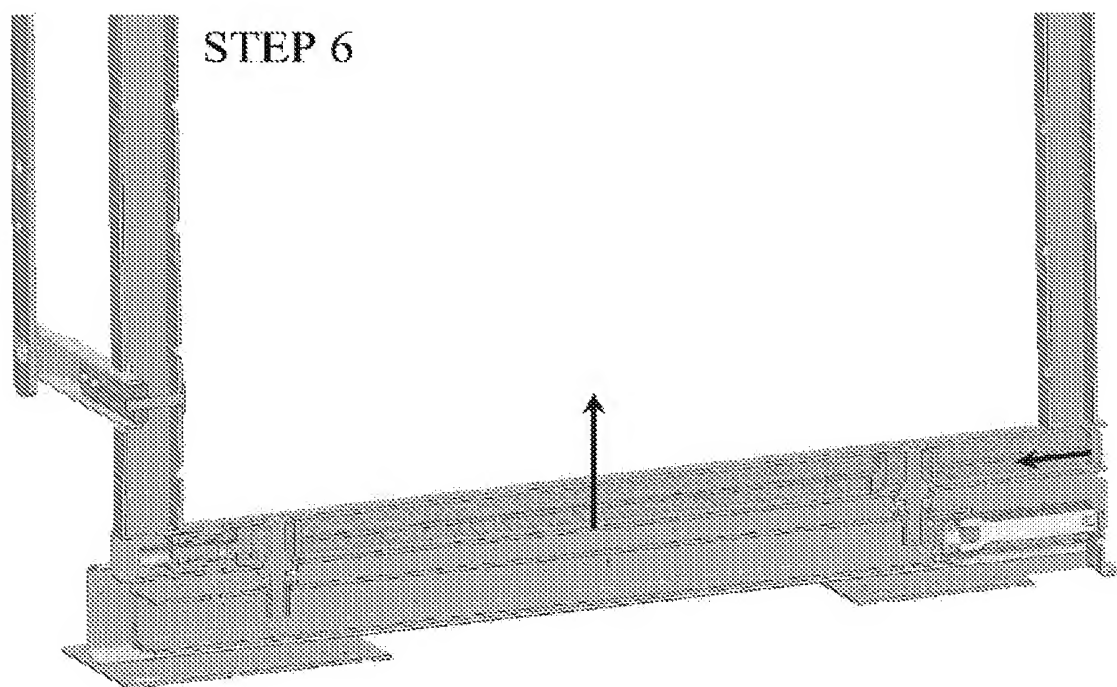
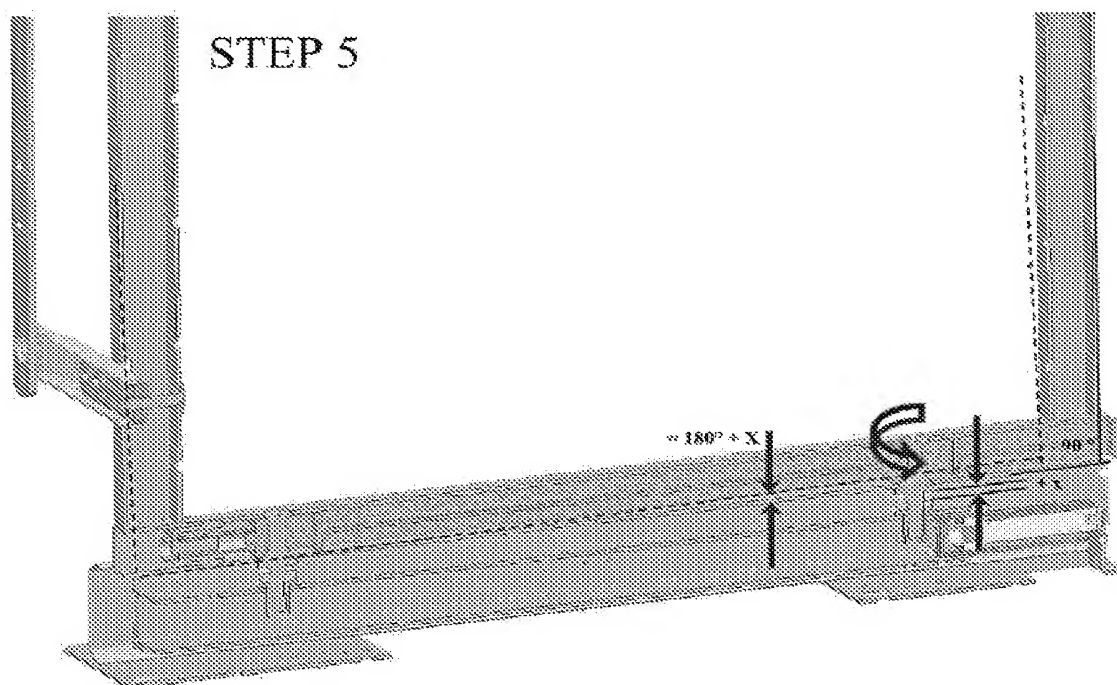
For these reasons, we believe that our invention for the assembly and adjustment of an extension frame in a tall cabinet is new and is also not obvious for a professional in this field.

Brakel,  
  
Thomas Sagel

HSA – Extension – (Installation, height- and angle adjustment, deinstallation)







STEP 7

